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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1 to 26 (canceled)

27 (previously presented): A method of alleviating complications from diabetes in a warm blooded animal, which comprises administering an effective amount of at least one compound having the formula (I)

$$B$$
 Y- CH_2X CR^1R^2 COOH

(I)

in which X stands for the oxygen or sulphur atom or for the imino (-NH-) or sulphonyl (-SO₂-) radical, Y stands for a direct linkage, or for the oxygen or sulphur atom or for the sulphonyl (-SO₂-) radical or for the radical of the formula $-CR^1R^2$ -, wherein R^1 and R^2 which may be the same or different are hydrogen, alkyl or aryl radicals or R^1 and R^2 may be joined together to form a cycloalkyl ring, and ring B may be optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected

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from halogen atoms and alkyl and aryl radicals, when n is an integer having the value 1, or Y stands for the oxygen or sulphur atom or for the sulphonyl (-SO2-) radical, and ring B may be optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen atoms and alkyl and aryl radicals when n has the value 0, or an ester, amide or salt thereof.

28 (previously presented): A method as claimed in claim 27 in which R' is selected from hydrogen and 1-4C alkyl, R' is selected from hydrogen, 1-4C alkyl and phenyl which may optionally be substituted by at least one halogen atom, or R1 and R2 may be joined together to form a cyclohexyl ring, and ring B may optionally contain one or more substituents selected from halogen atoms and 1-4C alkyl.

29 (previously presented): A method as claimed in claim 27 in which the compound has the formula (II)

$$\text{CI-} \begin{array}{c} & \text{CH}_2\text{O} \\ & \text{CH}_2\text{O} \\ & \text{CH}_3 \end{array}$$

(II)

30 (previously presented): A method as claimed in claim 27 in which the compound has the formula (III)

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$$CI$$
 CH_2O
 C_2H_5

(III)

31 (previously presented): A method as claimed in claim 27 in which the compound has the formula (IV)

$$CI \longrightarrow CH_3$$
 $COOH$
 CH_3

32 (previously presented): A method as claimed in claim 27 in which the warm blooded animal is a human.